Daily Pacific News.

VOL. II.—NO. 164. SAN FRANCISCO, WEDNESDAY MORNING, FEBRUARY 5, 1851. WHOLE NO. 350.

THE PACIFIC NEWS
IS PUBLISHED EVERY MORNING,
(SUNDAYS EXCEPTED)
BY WINKLEY, STOCKTON & CO.,
BASEMENT SCALES, EAST SIDE OF MONTGOMERY.

TERMS—INVARIABLY IN ADVANCE.
For One Year, per Mail.....$24
For Six Months.....12
Single Copies.....Five Cents.

TERMS OF ADVERTISING—IN ADVANCE.
Square of Ten Lines, or less, one insertion.....$2 00
Each subsequent insertion.....1 00
Square of Ten Lines, one week, in advance.....5 00
Each subsequent insertion.....1 00
Monthly advertisements, first insertion.....10 00
Each subsequent insertion.....1 00
Business Cards of three months, per Quarter.....10 00
Larger Advertisements in proportion.
Notices of the press of this location extra.
Legal Advertisements will be paid in advance, will be charged 50 per cent. extra.
☞ Job Printing of every description executed in a handsome style at the office of the Pacific News.

DAILY PACIFIC NEWS.

WEDNESDAY MORNING, FEB. 5, 1851.

"That Old White Hat."

Editor of the Pacific News.

In idle time in New England, the Poor-house, or Work-house, as it was then called, was generally shunted in some convenient place within the limits of the town proper. One object to be gained by this arrangement was the facility with which the labor of the paupers could be applied to town uses, such as cleaning streets, repairing highways, &c., when daily labor, a gang of a dozen, under charge of a town officer, might be seen moving in order, in summer's weather, to and from the scene of operations, as well cited, and apparently as contented as those who had the freedom of the town.

The more disabled portion of the inmates were employed in lighter duties about the house, picking oakum, mending the clothing, going of errands, and keeping everything in trim, within and without, in the little township.

Twice or thrice a week, the capacities board met, kept in motion by six or seven veterans from the settlement, might be seen loaded with grain, slowly going or returning from the North or South mill, which were situated on the same stream, at the foot of a hill. Among the yawing power, forenost and prominent, was Isaac Turner, or as he was otherwise called, "Capt. Johnny's Ike," by a harmless libel. With my earliest recollections, the face and air of Johnny existed. For many years, with my satchel on my arm, did I pass that old Work-house, (now demolished,) as often as I went and returned from school, and never once did I pass Johnny but we always shook at it, in company, as he called the curtsies, were not out. Johnny was figure-head in front of the old building, giving the word of command, and going through all the manœuvres of a sentinel, on his own beat. Prominent above the grave face of Johnny was that "Old White Hat." His hat always were it, and it lost nothing by the change. It was the pride of Johnny's eyes, and should, it gave Johnny quite a military appearance.

Johnny like a passer's guard; but where is that "Old White Hat"? is the all important question. The remembrance of many days have come back like a flood, when I see its counterpart any where in the wide world, and I sigh to think how many a "white hat" has been wearing from that time to the present Johnny's.

Happening in at the Jenny Lind Theatre the other evening, on the occasion of Mr. Stark's benefit, to witness the first presentation of Jack Sheppard, in which character, Mr. Stark made a most brilliant debut, establishing beyond a doubt, his claim to be ranked among the first artists in our country, what was my surprise, after the favor of outdoor non with which this celebrated play was received, to see the same old white hat, the same unyielding portion of the audience were enjoying a second feast, in that bit of Jack Sheppard. Yes, there it was, recognized on the head of Mr. Peter White, the shaker of a nut, swearing, that belief for all the world, as like my long lost friend, that I would have sworn it was the identical "Old White Hat."

"Old White Hat! How slight a thing
Into the Memory's slumbering realm,
And hid behind from her storehouse bring
Some long forgotten thing to mind.
White Hat—a name—a face—a life,
Is there in all the world like this?
That Old White Hat! I love it now,
Though twenty summers may have past,
Since I have seen that hat,
Or heard its form I learned but,
Yet I remember well that hat,
Who stood beside The Workhouse door.

That Old White Hat! With fashions decked,
And pert and valiant officers [ed,
Who strut the streets, and look as proud
As if intrusted to empire were,
As one to whom the world had been
Given for a plaything for a day.

That Old White Hat! Poor John is dead;
He sleeps in the Potter's field,
Where many more have found their home,
Who, with their lot to rest,
Or strange or homeless, found a grave,
That Old White Hat—his only care!

That Old White Hat! But yesterday,
I saw it on a stranger's head,
It came long years but causing dull
To wake the head, the true, the old,
To think of days long past,
That Old White Hat, as hard to me!

That Old White Hat! I wonder where
Its destiny will find a place,
When, all amid the mirth around,
Its wearer's head shall be at rest,
Or, like I fear, shall find no place
Where it can rest, that Old White Hat.

Long may it last, that Old White Hat,
No moment can be spar'd to me,
Than when in youth a thousand souls,
Have worn that Old White Hat,
The days when I'm no more to greet,
Can ye find no human face.

JESETYS.

☞ Senator Soule is catching it strong from the New Orleans papers, for his disloyal free speech on his return from Washington, to the Southern Democracy. Northern men are not to be trusted, New Orleans in particular, for being under Northern influence. He said—

"Gentlemen, I care very little for the opinion of the city. New Orleans is under Yankee influence—an influence which we must get rid of."

The beauty of this sentiment is the more striking from the fact that Soule is a Frenchman by birth.

NEW MEXICAN CONGRESSMEN.—Mr. Mowry, member elect to Congress from the State of New Mexico, arrived in St Louis on the 15th. The organization of New Mexico into a territory, instead of her admission as a State, changes very considerably the aspect of affairs.

SAN FRANCISCO PRICES CURRENT.

Ashes—Sale 22 tons at 9 cts.
Brandy—Sale 20 bbls at 85 cts.
Bread—Sale 20 bbls at $6 50.
Beans—Sale 20 bbls at $4 50.
Butter and Cheese—Sale 20 bbls at 25 cts.
Candles—Sale 20 bbls at 25 cts.
Coal—Sale 20 tons at $20.
Coffee—Sale 20 bbls at 25 cts.
Corn—Sale 20 bbls at $3 50.
Cotton—Sale 20 bbls at 25 cts.
Drugs—Sale 20 bbls at 25 cts.
Dry Goods—Sale 20 bbls at 25 cts.
Fish—Sale 20 bbls at 25 cts.
Flour—Sale 20 bbls at $6 50.
Fruit—Sale 20 bbls at 25 cts.
Grain—Sale 20 bbls at 25 cts.
Hardware—Sale 20 bbls at 25 cts.
Hides—Sale 20 bbls at 25 cts.
Iron—Sale 20 bbls at 25 cts.
Leather—Sale 20 bbls at 25 cts.
Lumber—Sale 20 bbls at 25 cts.
Oil—Sale 20 bbls at 25 cts.
Paper—Sale 20 bbls at 25 cts.
Pork—Sale 20 bbls at 25 cts.
Rice—Sale 20 bbls at 25 cts.
Salt—Sale 20 bbls at 25 cts.
Soap—Sale 20 bbls at 25 cts.
Sugar—Sale 20 bbls at 25 cts.
Tea—Sale 20 bbls at 25 cts.
Tobacco—Sale 20 bbls at 25 cts.
Wine—Sale 20 bbls at 25 cts.
Wool—Sale 20 bbls at 25 cts.

COPARTNERSHIP NOTICES.

COPARTNERSHIP.

THE SUBSCRIBERS have entered into copartnership under the firm of WINKLEY, STOCKTON & CO., for the transaction of business, under the old stand of WINKLEY, STOCKTON & CO.
EPHRAIM K. WINKLEY,
WILLIAM STOCKTON,
ALEXANDER CAMBELL.
San Francisco, Jan. 1, 1851. Jan17 tf

NOTICE.

MR. JAMES E. CUTTER is admitted a partner in our firm from this date. CUTTER & CO.
Office 69 Sansom st., N. Y. California st., San Francisco. Jan17 tf

NOTICE.

WE CARRY ON THE BUSINESS OF COMMISSION MERCHANTS, under the firm of CHARLES D. STRODE, CO., at Sacramento City, California. Their name is the Supreme Court of the State of California. Their name is the Supreme Court of the State of California. Their name is the Supreme Court of the State of

DAILY PACIFIC NEWS.

WEDNESDAY MORNING, FEB. 5, 1851.

AGENTS FOR THE PACIFIC NEWS.

Sacramento City.....Col. Joseph Grant.
San Jose.....Daily Argus.
Benicia.....C. M. Davis.
New-York.....Thompson & Hitchcock.
Napa.....M. H. N. Kendig.

☞ AGENTS WANTED in every City, Town and Village, to whom liberal advantages will be given. Orders for the PACIFIC NEWS will be duly attended to, if addressed to us post paid, and enclosing the cash.

☞ The WEEKLY PACIFIC NEWS will be re-commenced as soon as necessary arrangements can be completed. A STEAMER EDITION will be issued semi-monthly, on the sailing of each Mail Steamer.

Sunday Mails,

There is an abuse connected with the mail service performed by the Pacific Mail Steamship Company, to which we trust, in common with the thinking part of the community, the Postmaster General will apply a prompt remedy, in justice to the company, and from respect to public sentiment. We allude to the practice of obliging the company to despach a mail on Sunday, when it falls upon the 1st or 15th of the month. This may seem to many a small affair, but we do know that there are hundreds, nay, thousands, among us who would be gratified to see the custom of California upon this subject made to correspond with mail service elsewhere. From New York, Boston, in fact from no Atlantic city is there a foreign mail departure on Sunday, a course demanded by public sentiment, and a practice we should lose no time in procuring to be adopted here. No mail steamship leaves the shores of England on the Sabbath. Nay, so far is the matter carried there, that no post-offices are opened on Sunday, not even in London, nor letters delivered, except to members of the government,

In California, as in New England, not a solitary passenger steamer leaves the docks on the Sabbath, and we have yet to hear the first expression of dissent that it is so. And now a few reasons why California should be allowed to reform her Sunday mail service. It would in the first place render labor on the part of post-office clerks unnecessary, and allow them to participate in the religious services with which we, as a people, are pleased to distinguish the day. It would also release the clerks of the various steamship companies, who on steamer days do an immense amount of work, and the long array of merchants and clerks who will, so long as the mails are kept open on Sunday, make it a day of labor. Anticipate the day of sailing when it falls on Sunday, and none will more cheerfully close their correspondence than this class, who are impelled by the competition of commerce to give their correspondent the latest advices, let steamer day fall when it will. It is notorious that steamer day falling on Sunday, calls the largest proportion of church-goers from their duty, a thing we would for the credit of our city see changed. The Cunard ships invariably sail on Saturday, passing but one Sabbath at sea. The Bremen and Havre ships are allowed to choose another than the Sabbath when there regular day falls there; nor do the California mails ever leave New York on Sunday.

The Pacific Company, nor its agents, thus violate the Sabbath involuntarily and we hope the Postmaster-General will, by an order, allow them to alter their days so as to conform not only to their ideas of what is right, but to act in accordance with the feelings of the community which sends and reads these Sunday posted letters. This may appear a frivolous to some, but the subject will assume a higher position, when it is considered in the light of an example. We would have the Sabbath in every point of view a day of rest. We can find the highest authority for necessary labor on that day, but we feel assured that few who give the matter a moment's calm attention, will claim that Sunday mail service hence to Panama comes under this head. We are equally sure the Postmaster-General will at once give the power needed, now that the existence of the restriction is brought to his notice.

The Senatorial Election.—It will be seen that the Assembly have fixed on Thursday, to-morrow, as the day on which the election for U. S. Senator shall be held. The Senate, however, refused to concur, but voted to go into an election on the 20th inst. The probability is that the Assembly will concur in the resolution of the Senate, and that on the day named by that body, this exciting question will be disposed of.

"Dumping."—Will not some of our city fathers have the goodness to get into a cart and drive from Sacramento through Leidsdorff on to Long Wharf? Where the planks meet there is a jolt which would do honor to any school boy sliding down hill. A piece of timber is laid down with one edge slightly taken off to aid the descent, but we have had the pleasure of seeing a number of cart-loads of merchandise dumped into the street by the jolting operation, and our pleasure would be much increased if our Street Commissioner would ride over it, and have a plan of improvement "dumped" into his head.

The Rape Case.—This case, to which we allluded yesterday, in which one *Philip Ester* was charged with having committed a rape upon a little girl of only seven years of age, was examined yesterday before the Recorder. The evidence was most conclusive against the prisoner, and none in his behalf. The details of the testimony, are unfit for publication. The child gave a brief statement of the outrage, and which was corroberated by the mother, and the physician. The Recorder sent the case before the grand jury now in session, remarking that the charge was clearly sustained by the evidence.

Won't Serve.—We understand that several of the new appointees on the Police, whose names we published yesterday, have declined the honor. They do not relish the idea of working for the city for nothing and find themselves.

Thoughts Turned Edgewise.

The time once was, even in our own America, when the standard of a man's influence was measured by dignity of station, and the power of wealth; when titles and honors heaped upon him—the gifts of power, however little deserved, perhaps—were looked upon, if not with awe, with a sort of intuitive respect. By the glorious revolution of '76, this charm of feudal aristocracy was stricken to the ground, and although on its ruins another mushroom aristocracy has arisen, which has wealth for its basis, together with pride of employment, it remained for California to take its stand among the stars of our national galaxy, as a perfect leveller of all such petty distinctions.

By a strange misnomer, not uncommon in the moral philosophy of mankind which is reduced to practice, the Gentleman is of that class who can live uselessly upon hoarded thousands, who can afford to wear white kid gloves, and a glossy dress coat, sport a fine gold watch, and a glistening chain, and without soiling his hands or clothes by labor, and who can write an "Esq.," or "M. D.," or "Merchant," after his name, whether he has any brains, any real talents to entitle him to the distinction, or not; while the industrious mechanic, the hard handed farmer, or the honest laborer, from whom all true wealth flows, are crowded one side in the category of nobility, as unfit companions in social relationship for the "Upper Ten."

It is well worth a trip to California, not to "see the Elephant," alone, but to see things more as they should, in this respect. Instead of the aristocracy of wealth, we have the aristocracy of Labor. To win the golden pile, it is necessary not only to "calculate," as the Yankee has it, but to take hold of the plow with one's own hands, and to earn a good aristocratic reputation, some reputable employment is necessary. When you see a man walking through the streets sporting a cane, dressed in the height of fashion, with his finger nails carefully nurtured, set him down for a sporting man, or a *chevalier de industrie*, who lives by his wits, rather than his hands; and although he may have thousands to-day, he may be penniless to-morrow. You do not respect him; you cannot. When you see a carman dressed in his frock and dirt-stained garments, driving along with a heavy load, you exclaim, "that fellow is making an honest living," and here you respect the man. Stop him, and talk with him. Perhaps you will be surprised to hear him use refined language, and display a knowledge of books and science, above his appearance. Question him: you may learn that he has been liberally educated at home; that he has held stations of honor and profit among his countrymen, and was a man of consideration; and that he has thrown pride of employment where Macbeth threw physic, "to the dogs," and is laying up a penny for a "rainy day," by hard knocks, in San Francisco. We have seen Judges driving mules; ex-members of Congress with the ox goad in their hands: lawyers carrying dirt, and digging canals; and we have actually seen a *fair ladye* bow gracefully to a long bearded miner in his dilapidated garments; and a Governor shake hands cordially with a teamster. We know men of education, of high acquirements, who would honor the best society, selling newspapers about the streets. We know of ladies, ladies of superior education, of refinement, who have been delicately brought up, and who would grace the social circle equally well with "high born dames," who are winning "golden opinions," and laying up a store, by officiating as chambermaids, or presiding as "mine hostess," at hotels. In spite of *their* employments, and of *your* high notions, you will respectfully raise your hat as you pass them, and admire the self-sacrificing spirit, the energy of character, which induced them to seek a home and a reputable living in the Eureka State.

Of such, is the true aristocracy of California composed; not the aristocracy of man, in his impious yearning for power, but the aristocracy of Him who gave "the fruits of the field," and the gold of the hills, to those who would labor.

Theatre Francais, Adelphi.—This admirable troupe, not content with giving a new and attractive vaudeville a few nights ago, present another to-morrow evening, called "Les Saltembarouces," in which Mdlls. Eleonore, Racine and Breha will appear, and "Le Petit Fills," a bill which cannot fail to attract, as usual, a crowd of appreciating spectators. The completeness with which the performances are presented at this house, makes one give them the preference, when in doubt where to pass the evening, for one does not run the risk there of hearing a favorite author's beauties mangled by careless actors. Their merits deserve, and will secure a large audience.

Look to your Doors.—Within the past week, several suspicious boys and young men have been caught prowling around the New World Hotel in the evening, and when interrogated, they inquired for some fictitious person, and hastily withdrew. A few evenings since, a young *gentleman* called at rather a late hour, and inquired for lodgings. On being shown up stairs, and before going into any of the rooms, after taking a survey of the premises, he suddenly changed his mind, and beat a hasty retreat. It is supposed that his object was to gain a knowledge of the locality of the rooms.

Found.—Yesterday morning, a mahogany writing desk, broken open and full of papers, letters, books, &c., was found in a rear building on Stockton street. The name of John O'Donnell, of Baltimore, being in several of the books, it is supposed to belong to him.—The desk was taken to the second district station house, by officer Wilson.

☞ Hon. J. W. Redman, Judge of the County Court of San Jose, is seriously ill. His recovery is considered doubtful.

Our San Jose Correspondence.

San Jose, Feb. 2, 1851.

Editors of the Pacific News:

The settlement of the Capitol question has evidently removed one great obstacle to the progress of legislation; and the Senatorial election over, another obstacle will be removed.

This election is not likely to be long delayed. I think it is quite likely to occur on Thursday or Saturday of this present week. The only subject likely to delay it now, is the contested seat of the member from Yolo, Colusi and Trinity. The committee on Elections in the House have this day decided in favor of Mr. Osgood, who undoubtedly was elected by the people. The fact that Mr. Crane received a certificate as having received the majority of votes *so far as heard from*, will not be likely to be of any avail on a searching examination. Besides, the report of the Committee on Elections, of which Hon. D. P. Baldwin, the able member from Tuolumne, is chairman, carries great weight with it; and leaves no reasonable doubt of the results of the investigation before the House.

In ousting Mr. Crane, the Assembly are not, I am sure, actuated by any improper motives. The inquiry has already elicited the fact, which the census will more fully disclose, that the Pacific coast, north of San Francisco, contains more inhabitants than the Sacramento Valley north of Sacramento, and west of the river of the same name.

Mr. Crane appears to have made a very unfortunate entry upon political life. His seat was contested, and he was ousted therefrom last winter; and a similar fate, in all human probability, awaits him now. Personally, I have an esteem for Mr. Crane, although there are very many who who are fully his equals, and not a few who are his superiors. Political considerations, I think, can have no influence in deciding this case. It is well understood that both contestants are Whigs, if not elected as such. Mr. Crane is from Virginia, and Mr. Osgood is from Massachusetts.

A very large delegation of the unwashed—unsoaped, certainly—outsiders, are here. San Francisco is abundantly represented. The acuteness of gentlemen from your city is such that but little else is wanted to carry a measure, in which they have an interest, through with, except to know that they feel a heartfelt interest in the same.

A great *gold fever* has been stirred here by news of important discoveries near the Mission of San Juan, between that and Pacheco's Pass. I am not as credibly informed as I wish; but I think the report to be well-founded.

C. M. B.

The Squatter Case.

The further examination of the case of Page against Folsom, was continued before Recorder Tilford, yesterday, and occupied the attention of the court throughout the day.

The testimony as to who committed the first act of violence, was directly conflicting. Some of the witnesses swore positively that Capt. Folsom first struck at and fired upon Mr. Page; while the witnesses for the defence flatly contradicted this statement.

The defence attempted to introduce the question of title to the property, for the purpose of showing that they had the *right* to use force to drive off trespassers, which was objected to, but the Recorder sustained the position, and the testimony was admitted. It was then proven that the Spanish title to the property on which the act of violence is alleged to have been committed, was vested in Leidsdorff, and was granted for the purpose of building a wharf, the ruins of which are yet visible, and upon that spot were the only ware-houses on the beach at the time of the grant, and that it has always been conceded that the title was in him. From the conveyance to Leidsdorff, the title was traced to Capt. Folsom, and witnesses were produced who testified to the fact of his having received the rents and profits.

The case was ably summed up by the counsel on both sides, and submitted to the Court. The Recorder will probably give his decision this morning.

Fencing in Lots.—Since the sale of city lots, we notice a decided increase of improvement of what has heretofore been open ground, in the way of fence enclosures and other marked evidences of right of title and possession. North Beach, and the sand hills back of it have, particularly, undergone a rapid transition from open grounds to enclosed lots. Such is also the case with the hill on which the windmill is located, as well as Telegraph Hill. And those who were wont to clamber these hills, unobstructed by naught save a few rocks and devious paths, must now, forsooth, incur the additional labor of scaling scores of fences. We could have wished these hills had been spared the onward march of improvement.

Judicial Decision.—A decision made by Judge Morrison, in relation to the enforcement of a gambling debt, will be found in our columns this morning. It will be seen that he reverses the decision of the Justice below, thereby denying that such a contract is binding at common law.

Auction Sales this Day.—Those desirous of purchasing, at advantageous rates, almost every kind of goods in market, should examine the list offered at auction this morning, by *Starr, Minturn & Co., Middleton & Co., Wm. H. V. Cronise* and *Henry B. Lafitte & Co.*, under the appropriate head in this day's paper.

Found.—Yesterday morning, a mahogany writing desk, broken open, and full of papers, letters, books, &c., was found in a rear building on Stockton street. The name of John O'Donnell, of Baltimore, being in several of the books, it is supposed to belong to him. The desk was taken to the 2d district station house, by officer Wilson.

San Francisco County Court.

Before Hon. R. N. Morrison, sitting for the trial of Appeals.

Nicanor de Sota vs. *Carlos Barroillet*.—This action was tried before P. W. Shepheard, Esq., in which a judgment was rendered for the plaintiff of $204 damages and costs. From this judgment the defendant appealed, and it comes before this Court for a new trial. No proofs were taken here, but the case was submitted by the counsel, who agree that the only question involved is whether money won at gaming can be recovered by the laws of this State. By the act of the Legislature, the common law, was adopted as the rule of decision, and in the absence of any statutory enactment, the question presented in this cause, must be examined and decided, upon that rule alone.

In the ignorance which prevailed in western Europe, all laws rested entirely on tradition. The British and Gallic Druids committed their laws, as well as learning, to memory; and it is said of the primitive Saxons in England, and on the continent, that their laws were retained solely by tradition and customs, receiving their binding force, by long and immemorial usage. Such is the source and basis of the common law of England. Some of these customs have been transmitted down through the turbulent and changeful history of our mother country unadulterated. There was, however, a large infusion into the laws of the ancient Britons from the Romans, and the Picts, the Saxons, and the Danes, as well as the Normans, and if the Dome Book of Alfred had not been lost, it would afford a very meagre and imperfect exhibition of the common law, as then understood; and while many of its features have undergone material modifications in the course of political events, there have always been recognized certain distinctive elementary principles, constituting its real beauty and moral strength, which have known no essential change, through all the revolutions which have agitated and convulsed the people, who acknowledged their sway.

These canons were not founded upon any fixed or iron rule, but capable of melioration and expansion, adapting and adjusting themselves to the age, country, and condition of things, to which they were applied. Their genius and spirit have always been progressive; the principle therefore which denounces and avoids a contract, as *contra bona mores*, or against public policy is not confined to subjects, to which it was applied by the Courts in England, in the rude and rough times of the Edwards, the Richards and the Henrys. Transactions which were legally sanctioned then, may now properly be condemned by the same rule of decision and the maxim, "*tempora mutantur mutamus cum illis*," may be aptly applied to them. Not that the law itself changes, but because the society for whose use and protection it is intended, must necessarily change, with the advancing motion of human affairs.

What common law then was adopted by our Legislature? That system, in my opinion, in its enlightened, meliorated, and matured state: not as it existed among the Barons of England, who held gaming to be one of the proper amusements of gentlemen, and as "better fitting them for business." Can the supposition be tolerated, that this was the law brought over by the Mayflower? Could it find sanction in a school of such severe morals, and pure integrity? Can it be supposed, that it could have had the countenance of Penn, and his quiet, peace-loving "Friends" who settled Pennsylvania? The answer is obvious. The Supreme Court of that State effectually repudiated such a doctrine, and held that no action can be maintained to recover a wager at common law. 6 Wharton—176: Justice Huston in giving the opinion says in Phillips vs. Ives, 1st Rawle, page 458: "that though bets were recoverable by the common law of England, it was not a part of the common law introduced into Pennsylvania" and Justice Sergeant in 6 Wharton says "When I look back to the character and principles which actuated our founders and predecessors, I am satisfied they never countenanced such a principle but left parties who chose to embark into contracts of this kind, to recover as they could, according to the code under which they originated: and that it is derogatory to the character, and injurious to the interests of the community to sanction them.

In the application of the common law to this young State, Courts are bound to expound it, on a question of this kind, in accordance with the general moral sense of the American people, by whom, through the legislation of every State of the Republic, the practice of gaming stands prohibited, and in most of them is made a public offense, punishable by fine and imprisonment. Shall this State, mainly constituted of enterprising and intelligent emigrants from every State in the Union, be content with a lower moral standard in her laws.

It was an indictable offense at common law to keep a common gaming house, Rex. vs. Rogier, 2 D and R, 1 B and C, 272. All gaming houses are nuisances in the eyes of the law, not only because they are great temptations to idleness, but because they draw together great numbers of disorderly persons, Hawk. P. C. 75-6, and at this day a common player of hazard may be indicted and set in the pillory by the common law of England, 2 Roll. 78. The French law, founded on the Civil Code, does not allow an action to be maintained for money won at play. Code Civil, Bk. 2, ch. 1. In Scotland, also, the same policy prevails. In view of the disastrous effects of gaming, Courts of Equity will not only refuse to interfere, but will lend their aid to suppress them, and will support a bill in equity, to enforce the cancellation of the security. Story's Equity Jurisprudence, 303. Nor will a wager, contrary to public policy, be enforced at Law. Story on Con. 566. Can a practice be said to be *moral*, which is punished as a *crime*, under any circumstances. There is another view of the subject, which is worthy of consideration. Chancellor Kent, in treating of the common law, says, "It was imported by our colonial ancestors, so far as it was applicable, and it is the established doctrine, that English statutes, passed before the emigration of our ancestors, and applicable to our situation, and in amendment of the law, constitute a part of the common law of this country, Kent's Com., 472. See also 5 Peter's U. S. Rep., 233. Now the practice of gaming was prohibited by 33 Hen. 8, and 3 Philip and Mary, and if the position above stated is correct, those statutes were made a part of the law of the State by the adoption of the Common Law without qualification as the rule of decision, and it follows that gaming is *malum prohibitum*, and no action can lie to recover a debt thus contracted, as the common law never aids a party in the recovery of a demand created in doing an act prohibited by a Statute, though unaccompanied by a penalty.

There is another difficulty in maintaining this action, which is in debt. The plaintiff should have set out the special circumstances with mutual promises. Debt only lies on a contract executed, such as labor done or some other meritorious cause. Bac. Abr. (Mod.) Ed. 450: 2 Chitty on Contract, 138. But the ground on which the cause was intended to be submitted, perhaps, should preclude this objection, it not having been raised by the defendant's counsel.

Whether the Legislature, will interfere by endeavoring to restrain a practice that is confessedly of an evil tendency, by penal enactment, or leave it to be corrected by public sentiment, is for that body to decide.

In every view I have taken of this subject, I cannot avoid the conclusion that the demand for which this action is brought is illegal and cannot be recovered. Parties indulging in this *amusement*, if such it may be called, must be left to the sense of honor of their antagonists, or appeal to the Jockey Club, courts of law ought not to help them.

The judgment of the Court below must be reversed, with costs.

Record of the City Courts.

Tuesday, Feb. 4.

Superior Court.—Hon. H. C. Murray, Chief Justice.

Hilton vs. Hackett et al. The motion to dissolve the injunction in this case is hereby submitted to the Court.

Cæsar Schnepel vs. Caspar Trulli. Ordered that a judgment as in case of non-suit be entered, and that leave be granted to plaintiff to enter an appeal.

Churchill vs. city of San Francisco. Demurrer argued and overruled.

Gardet vs. Belknap et al. Motion for a new trial overruled.

Whitney vs. Thompson et al. Ordered that the injunction heretofore ordered be dissolved.

Saddler & Brooks vs. Minturn et al. Demurrer argued and overruled.

Smith vs. Gibbs. Final judgment entered herein in favor of the defendants.

Henry Connor vs. Payne et al. Leave given for the plaintiff to amend, by inserting the name of other defendants.

Billings et al. vs. Havens. Demurrer argued and overruled.

John S. Manson vs. John B. Steenberger. Cause postponed; Botts, Campbell & Emmetts for plaintiff, Morse for defendants.

Peter Smith vs. The city of San Francisco and M. Alma. Case tried before a jury, who rendered a verdict that there was an understanding between the parties for an extension of time; Burritt and Wilson for plaintiff, Chetwood for defendant.

County Court of Appeals.—Hon. R. N. Morrison presiding.

Francis Lunday has this day declared his intention to become a citizen of the United States.

Probate Court.—Before Judge Morrison.

In matter of the estate of Wm. P. McArthur, deceased. Ordered that the will of Wm. P. McArthur, deceased, be admitted to probate, and that letters testamentary issue to Joseph H. McArthur and A. J. Bowie, on filing bond in the sum of $15,000.

District Court.—Hon. Levi Parsons presiding.

Arguillo et al. vs. Robert E. Hunter. Leave given to amend, and judgment to stand as security; execution stayed.

Gelston vs. Bertrand et al. Five days time allowed to answer.

Ludlow vs. Gilmore. Judgment by default.

I. Quentin vs. Beverly Miller. Judgment by default.

Thomas Bell vs. John M. Hood. Judgment by default.

People vs. Moore. Demurrer overruled.

Duane vs. Bush. Motion overruled, and stay of proceedings set aside.

An attachment was issued against the master of the ship Agenoria, for failure to appear before Wm. H. Clark, Commissioner.

Recorder's Court.—Hon. F. Tillord, presiding.

For being drunk and disorderly, T. Riley was fined $5; Wm. Edwards $5; Francis Rogene $10; and Joseph Brown discharged.

For a breach of the peace, Theodore Jacon and Jose Ramus, were each fined $40.

William Brown, for furious riding, was fined $20.

E. H. Wilson, for discharging fire-arms contrary to ordinance, was fined $25, or in default of payment to be imprisoned ten days. Wm. Jones, for same offence, was discharged.

John Keery, for being riotous, was sentenced to pay a fine of $10, or in default of payment, to be imprisoned five days.

Peter & Jenks, for a nuisance, were fined $25 each, and the amount ordered to be paid to the City Hospital.

John Adams, for larceny, was continued.

Philip Ester, for committing a rape on the person of Sarah Williams, a child seven years old, was bound over to the District Court in the sum of $10,000.

T. F. Hartley, for taking some daguerreotype portraits from R. H. Vance, on Clay street, was held over in the sum of $500.

James Nesbitt for being disorderly in Court, was fined $50.

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE.

Monday, February 3.

IN SENATE.—Mr. De la Guerra took his seat for the first time this season.

Mr. Lippincott presented a petition, numerously signed, against the divorce bill.

The Indian war loan bill was made the special order for Tuesday.

The Homestead Exemption bill was discussed, and numerous amendments offered, but the following only were adopted:

1st. Instead of 80 acres, 160 acres were substituted.

2d. The word "incorporated" was expunged in two places where it occurs.

3d. 2500 varas square were substituted for 50 feet in front and rear, and 50 deep.

The Senate, on motion of Mr. Broderick, named the 20th inst as the day on which they would go into an election for U. S. Senator.

IN ASSEMBLY.—Mr. Chas. J. Freeman, member elect from San Luis Obispo, presented his certificate, and took his seat as a member of the House.

Mr. Campbell introduced a joint resolution, fixing upon the 20th inst. as the day for the final adjournment of the Legislature. Laid on the table.

Mr. Merritt introduced a joint resolution that Thursday, the 6th inst., at 12 M., be the time fixed upon for the election of U. S. Senator. Agreed to.

Mr. Crane introduced a bill authorizing keepers of warehouses to sell goods left on storage after a certain time had expired.

The House took up Senate bill number 20, amendatory of an act providing for the creation of a State Marine Hospital. Read a third time and passed finally.

Mr. Baldwin, chairman of the Committee on Elections, reported that George W. Crane is not entitled to a seat as representative from Yolo, Colusi and Trinity; and recommended the adoption of the following resolution:

"Resolved, That H. P. Osgood having received the highest number of votes from the district composed of the counties of Yolo, Colusi and Trinity, is entitled to his seat in this House as a member of Assembly."

The report was made the special order for Saturday next.

Violating City Ordinances.—In the Recorder's Court, yesterday, Wm. Brown was fined $20 for furious riding, E. H. Wilson, $25 for firing off a gun in the streets, and Michael & Jenks $25 for a nuisance in California street.

Contempt of Court.—A citizen was promptly brought up before the Recorder yesterday, and fined $50 for contempt of Court, in having caused a noise and disturbance therein.

BY LAST NIGHT'S BOAT.

News from Sacramento Valley.

G. W. Gregory and Freeman & Co. laid upon our table, at an early hour last night, Sacramento papers of yesterday morning.

The New World took up on Monday, to Sacramento, between four and five hundred passengers.

A meeting of citizens was held on Monday, to take into consideration the resolution offered by Mr. Bigler, in the Assembly, for amending the city charter, so as to prohibit Councilmen from voting themselves salaries, without first obtaining the consent of the people; also to prohibit the Council from issuing bonds without the consent of the Mayor. After several addresses, resolutions were adopted, declaring that "right and justice demanded an appropriation, by the Legislature, for the hospital services of the city for the past year, and either an appropriation to her for the same in future, or else the establishment of a State Hospital."

A resolution was adopted, appointing a committee of three, to act with a like committee from the Common Council, to proceed to San Jose, and urge this measure upon the Legislature

Samuel Norris, Esq., was held to answer for an assault and battery on a man named George Ganan, whom he imprisoned in his own house on the charge of stealing $9,200 in Dec. last. Gavan was also examined, and held to bail in $500 for the robbery.

D. A. Lewis and George Knight, charged with an attempt to drown R. G. McCubbin, were discharged.

Attempted Robbery.—The Jewelry establishment of Messrs. Hastings and Cummings on J street, was partially broken into on Sunday night. It seems that some persons in the street attempted to open the front window, and were cutting away the sash for this purpose, when the occupants of the house fired upon them. The window was completely riddled—the glass being entirely broken out. Blood was traced upon the ground in front of the window, when the door was opened, but further than this nothing is known. [Times.

Commercial.

The Board of Brokers will organize to-morrow, 5th, adding a new and valuable feature to our business facilities. In no city in the Union is there a larger variety of stocks on sale, and this organization of brokers for the despatch of business cannot but have a favorable result. Now, it is the practice to deposite scrip and stock, for sale with brokers, who like merchants, wait for customers to seek them out, while prices remain comparatively a sealed book to those outside. The successful operation of a board of brokers, will change all this, and fix a price for stocks; and one can tell day by day the value of his securities, and the price he can obtain at once. The fluctuations of state and city securities, day by day, will show with unerring certainty, how measures are to affect the public credit. There is no barometer to show the state of the money market, like a stock board, and we hope the record will not be lost at San Jose.

Money can be had upon good collaterals at five and six per cent. a month, which may be taken as the common rate of loans; when trash is given as security, the rate often touches eight or ten per cent.

Business among our auction houses and commercial men generally, is gradually increasing, and we shall soon be hard at work supplying the interior with goods. There is more activity among ships, and a good demand exists for vessels to go up and down the coast with passengers. The clearances rather exceed the arrivals, and upon the whole, there is reason to believe that all the good ships will soon be in request for coast work, or else proceep homeward.

Auction Sales.

By Rising, Caselli & Co.

Teas per Sierra Nevada, Feb. 4. Oolong Souchong, 37½@40½ ₱ lb; Young Hyson, 42½@66 ₱ lb; Hyson, 43@45½c ₱ lb; Imperial, 50@63c ₱ lb; Manilla sugar in mats, 8¾c ₱ lb; Peruvian sugar in loaves, 11@13c ₱ lb; Crushed sugar, 14c ₱ lb; coffee inferior, 14¾c ₱ lb; Chili flour, 100lb sacks, $5 12½@5 25; do 50lb do, $2,62@ Butter, 15@25lb kegs inferior, 20c ₱ lb; Raisins, $2,65½; 3.00; Pine-apple Cheese, 16c ₱ lb; Hams, inferior, 10@12c ₱ lb; do sugar cured, 14¾@15½c ₱ lb; Claret, St. Julien, $3.62½; do Medoc, $3,37½; Cognac brandy in 18 gallon kegs, $1.50@1.62½; Sardines in oil, wholes $8@8,50; Clear Pork, ½ b'ls, $5,12½@5,25; Lard in tins, 9½c ₱ lb

---

Arrivals at Hotels.

Revere, February 4—E H Wallace, J D Husser, J M Ford, H Chapman, W H Boyd, A J McDonnell, John Dupont, Sacramento; H S Williams, J B Curtiss, Capt J L Smith, Stockton; W J Trierson, Benicia.

Passengers Sailed.

Per steamer Constitution.—Monterey—J F Thompson, J C Hall, Joaquin Landa, Mr Patrick, Wm R Hutton, W Little and lady.

Santa Barbara—J S Clark, J H Kelly.

San Pedro—Francis Martines. Capt S R Demmer, Senor Campo, Manuel Ginnerey Barrus, John San Franco and child, A Pollard, C H Hayford.

San Diego—Lieut C J Coutts, William Eddy, J S Ellis, Samuel Ward, John Mel, Mr Sims, and 20 others for the various ports.

Passengers Arrived.

Per Potomac—Mrs Sibley and servant, H B Kunchenthall, E Kunchenthall, Mrs Taylor and child, A J Bonner.

MARINE NEWS.

Cleared.

February 4.

Steamer Constitution, Bissell, San Diego.
Ship Helaconda Catharine Helena, Radcliffe, Callao.
Ship Olive Branch, Place, Panama.
Bark John Allyne, Osborn, Sandwich Islands.
Brig Wilhelmina, (Haw) Metcalfe, Sandwich Islands.
Brig Glencoe, ——, Mazatlan.
Schr Harp, Burne, San Blas.
Schr Brage, (Swed) Edman, Ports in Pacific.

Arrived.

Bark Almedia, Thayer, 15 ds fm Lahaina. Produce to Throckmorton.
Ship Potomac, Gardner, 213 ds from New Orleans via St Carlos, 72 ds. Mdse to Capt Cheever. 28 pass.
Bark Catharine Jenkins, (Br) Gibbs, 65 ds fm Talcahuana. Flour to Moorehead, Whithead & Co.
Bark Adelaide, (Br) Doane, 210 ds fm Halifax via Callao 55 ds. Lumber, &c, Dickson. De Wooif & Co.
Brig Adelle, (Br) 277 ds fm Liverpool. Coal, &c. Starkey Bros.

Spoken.

Per Potomac—Jan 30, 60 miles WNW of this port, bark Chester, hence for Gold Bluff.

Memoranda.

Per Almedia—Left bark Flora, schr Sarah Lavinia, Br brig Corsair, schr Almira, loading for this port. Betty Bliss had sailed for Honolulu.

Foreign Ports.

Port of Honolulu—Arr Jan 4, bk Lydia Ann, Bullins, 24 ds fm this port; schr Enigma, (Br) Rossum, 6th, bark Gold Hunter, Jackson, 14 ds fm this port; brig Baltimore, Studley, fm NBedford via Marquesas islands; Br bgn Gazelle, Wood, Mazatlan; Una, Steward, fm Fort Victoria; Mary Dase, Monett, 34 days from Columbia river; ship Marathon, Waterman, 29 ds fm this port. 8th, schr Loo Choo, Mason, 17ds; brig Guinare, Bayard, 10 ds; ship Edgar, Smith, 17 ds; brig Mary Jane, Crowell, 15 ds fm this port; Br schr Harriett, Atwood, fm Lahaina.

Old—Jan 4, brig Sam und Ben, Wilson, Manila. 8th, bark Hiero, Bucknam, Calcutta; ship Marathon, Waterman, Calcutta; brig Independence, Piber, Sydney; wh bk Wolga, for a cruise.

In Port—Ships Annata Heroine, Caravan; barks Petrel, Duchess of Clarence, Bramin, Elizabeth, Independence; brigs Petrel, Henrietta, Tegus, Baikal; schrs Vulcan, J Butler, Catharine.

INFORMATION WANTED,

Of George B. Bryssон, of New York—any person possessing information of the above gentleman will confer a favor by leaving it with his brother, Alexander Bryssон, at the Western Hotel, on Broadway. feb5 3t*

WANTED.

By an industrious, middle aged man a situation as warehouse man, or store keeper, (in a ship chandlery) would be preferred, having a knowledge of shipping business. A line addressed to ALPHA, at this office, will be attended to. feb5 2t*

COAL.

200 TONS LACKAWANA COAL for sale, ex ship Louisiana, by CLIFFORD, GARR & CO.
feb5 2t Clay street, corner Montgomery.

☞ State Warrants in Small Sums.—For Sale, Warrants on the State Treasury in sums of $50, $75, and $100, receivable for State Taxes, Auction Duties, &c. Inquire at the office of this paper, Montgomery street, next door to Cronin & Markley's. jan7

BUSINESS NOTICES.

AUCTION SALES.

AUCTION SALES.

SHIPPING.

STEAMERS.

EDUCATIONAL.

BANKING AND INSURANCE.

EXPRESSES.

LOTTERY.

AN ACT to Establish Plains, and Fifth regular Township Election Precinct in Sherman County.

[Approved February 25, 1889.]

The People of the State of California, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

SECTION 1. The following described territory, to-wit: Township Number Six (6) North, of Range Number Seventeen (17) East, Mount Diablo Base and Meridian, shall constitute and be known as the Fifth Township Election Precinct in Sherman County, and the place for the holding of all township elections in said Township Number Six (6) North, of Range Number Seventeen (17) East, Mount Diablo Base and Meridian, shall be at the town of Plains, in said Township Number Six (6) North, of Range Number Seventeen (17) East, Mount Diablo Base and Meridian.

SEC. 2. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its passage.

Approved February 25, 1889.

PETER B. BURNETT.

AN ACT to Establish the Election Precinct of Vernon, in the County of Los Angeles, and Defining the Boundaries Thereof.

[Approved February 25, 1889.]

The People of the State of California, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

SECTION 1. All that portion of the County of Los Angeles, State of California, bounded and described as follows, to-wit: Commencing at the point of intersection of the north line of Section Thirty-four (34), Township One (1) South, Range Twelve (12) West, San Bernardino Base and Meridian, with the center line of the channel of the Los Angeles River; thence following the center line of the channel of the Los Angeles River in a southeasterly direction to the point of intersection of the center line of the channel of the Los Angeles River with the south line of Section Thirty-three (33), Township One (1) South, Range Eleven (11) West, San Bernardino Base and Meridian; thence west along the south line of Section Thirty-three (33), Township One (1) South, Range Eleven (11) West, San Bernardino Base and Meridian, to the southwest corner of said Section Thirty-three (33); thence north along the west line of Section Thirty-three (33), Township One (1) South, Range Eleven (11) West, San Bernardino Base and Meridian, to the northwest corner of said Section Thirty-three (33); thence west along the north line of Section Thirty-four (34), Township One (1) South, Range Twelve (12) West, San Bernardino Base and Meridian, to the point of commencement, shall constitute and be known as the Vernon Election Precinct, in the County of Los Angeles, State of California.

SEC. 2. All acts and parts of acts inconsistent herewith are hereby repealed.

SEC. 3. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its passage.

Approved February 25, 1889.

PETER B. BURNETT.

AN ACT to Amend an Act entitled "An Act to Establish a Uniform System of Public Schools," approved March 3, 1880, and all Acts Amendatory Thereof.

[Approved February 25, 1889.]

The People of the State of California, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

SECTION 1. Section 1662 of an Act entitled "An Act to establish a uniform system of public schools," approved March 3, 1880, and all acts amendatory thereof, is hereby amended to read as follows:

1662. Every county superintendent shall, on the first Monday in August, 1889, and on the first Monday in August every two years thereafter, be elected by the qualified electors of the county, and shall hold his office for two years from the first Monday in August next after his election, and until his successor is elected and qualified.

SEC. 2. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its passage.

Approved February 25, 1889.

PETER B. BURNETT.

AN ACT regulating the Quarantine of Vessels Arriving at the Port of San Francisco, and Repealing Certain Acts.

[Approved February 25, 1889.]

The People of the State of California, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

SECTION 1. All vessels arriving at the port of San Francisco, from any port or place without the limits of the State of California, shall be subject to the quarantine laws of the State of California, and to the rules and regulations established by the Board of Health of the City and County of San Francisco, and by the Commissioners of Quarantine, and the Health Officer of the Port of San Francisco, and by the Governor of the State of California, and by the Health Officer of the City and County of San Francisco, and by the Health Officer of the State Board of Health, and by the Commissioners of Quarantine, and by the Governor of the State of California, and by the Health Officer of the Port of San Francisco, and by the Health Officer of the State Board of Health shall hereafter be established.

SEC. 2. No vessel shall be allowed to be subject to the quarantine laws of the State of California, and to the rules and regulations established by the Board of Health of the City and County of San Francisco, and by the Commissioners of Quarantine, and by the Governor of the State of California, and by the Health Officer of the Port of San Francisco, and by the Health Officer of the State Board of Health shall hereafter be established.

SEC. 3. The quarantine of such vessels shall be limited to the period of time necessary for the disinfection of the vessel, and the removal of the passengers and crew, and the disinfection of the baggage and cargo, and